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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 02860.0637-03

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Norikazu ARAI et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2655  
Application No.: 10/612,056 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: July 3, 2003 )  
For: OPTICAL PICKUP APPARATUS, ) Confirmation No.: 4259  
RECORDING/REPRODUCING )  
APPARATUS PROVIDED WITH )  
THE OPTICAL PICKUP )  
APPARATUS, OPTICAL )  
ELEMENT, AND INFORMATION )  
RECORDING/REPRODUCING )  
METHOD )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached.

Copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

An English Abstract of the non-English document is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:

Michael R. Kelly  
Reg. No. 33,921

Dated: June 7, 2005

JUN 07 2005

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	02860.0637-03000
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/612,056
Filing Date	July 3, 2003
First Named Inventor	Norikazu ARAI et al.
Art Unit	2655
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned

**U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-5,777,970	07-07-1998	Kajiyama et al.	
		US-5,917,791	06-29-1999	Tsuchiya et al.	
		US-5,936,782	08-10-1999	Nomura et al.	
		US-6,023,449	02-08-2000	Chung	
		US-6,043,935	03-28-2000	Lee	
		US-6,154,433	11-28-2000	Hoshino et al.	
		US-6,191,889	02-20-2001	Maruyama	
		US-6,324,150	11-27-2001	Ju	
		US-6,442,124	08-27-2002	Chung et al.	
		US-			
		US-			

**Note: Submission of copies of U.S. Patents and published U.S. Patent Applications is not required.****FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 10-092010	04-10-1998	Cho et al.		Abstract

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.